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this morning that there would be a need, at least by my estimation, for bringing this rule to you. Let me try to give you a little background of why this particular rule change is coming before you today. And I would like to say, I don't think I've ever suggested a rule change on the floor of this Legislature. I really believe the rules are to be left alone for the most part. They've worked pretty well for us over the years. But I think that we ought to at least think about what we're doing here. With the entire support of the Government Committee, I went before the Executive Board this morning to talk about some of the referencing that has been occurring over the past approximate ten years. And it wasn't the first time I had been before the Executive Board. It was probably the...well, I know it was the second time. It may have even been the third time. The problem, as I see it, is that the Executive Board is not a Standing Committee. It is a Special Committee. And let me refer you to the rules book on page 16. It's Rule 3 and it's Section, what, 4, which tells about what the Reference Committee is supposed to do. And on that page it says that the Exec Board shall constitute the Reference Committee. The Reference Committee shall review each bill and resolution and either reference the matter to the appropriate committee or to General File. "The appropriate committee is that committee which has subject-matter jurisdiction over the issue or which has traditionally handled the issue." Fine so far. Those were the rules when I came into the Legislature. Then, in 1993, the Legislature got into a real squabble with then-State Auditor John Breslow over the use of telephones, and as a result there were numerous questions about lawsuits and legalities that were involved, and at that time, in 1993, the Exec Board asked for permission or took it upon themselves, I don't recall which, to reference five bills to itself, and they all related to, as I would like to call it, the internal workings of the Legislature and about possible lawsuits that we might be incurring. That's fine. In 1993, that's what happened. I happened to chair the Government Committee at that time and I had no problem with that. In 1994, there were no references to the Exec Board of subject matter involving the Legislature. I was still Government Committee Chair. In 1995, some of you will remember I lost my reelection as Government Committee Chair and actually went over to Health Committee for a